Chapter No. 2203 15/SS02/R1128 BR ITBIRC

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 629



Secretary

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE BELMONT HIGH SCHOOL "LADY CARDINALS" GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM AND COACH CHRIS HIGGINBOTTOM FOR WINNING THE MHSAA CLASS 3A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

WHEREAS, a few moments went by over the course of a year when the Belmont basketball senior didn't think about the State Title that slipped out of Belmont's hands and into Booneville's in 2014. It looked like Belmont was heading for another heartbreaker in the Mississippi High School Activities Association (MHSAA) Class 3A Girls State Championship Game on March 13, 2015, when Katelyn Nunley nailed a shot from the left wing with ten seconds remaining, and the Lady Cardinals held on to defeat the Lady Devils 41-39; and

WHEREAS, Belmont is now tied with Murrah for the second-most Girls Basketball Championships at nine; and

WHEREAS, both teams wrestled the lead back and forth going down to the wire. With under a minute to play, Belmont trailed 38-37. Belmont senior guard Elisiah Jones missed her first free

throw but made her second. Belmont eventually got the ball back with 22.6 seconds to go. That is when Nunley hit the go-ahead basket. The Lady Devils drove the length of the floor and put up a shot that went out of bounds; and

WHEREAS, the key player in the Championship Game was Elisiah Jones, Belmont. The senior guard scored a game-high 14 points and eight rebounds; and

WHEREAS, "Out of all that adversity, we still found a way to win," Belmont Coach Chris Higginbottom said. "I think championship teams, no matter what, refuse to lose and find a way to win"; and

WHEREAS, the 2014-2015 Belmont Girls Basketball Team Roster is: Alivia Rooker, Allie Taylor, Alyssa Grubbs, Ashton Swader, Breanna Lynch, Carly Ramsey, Channa Caldwell, Chloe Watson, Claire Maroon, Elenora Lebiu, Elisiah Jones, Katelyn Nunley, Madison Sullivan, Morgan Stephens, Peyton Brooks and Sarah Berryman; and Coach Chris Higginbottom; and

WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this group of student athletes and their dedicated Coach who have brought honor to their school, their community and to the State of Mississippi:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the Belmont High School "Lady Cardinals" Girls Basketball Team and Coach Chris

Higginbottom for winning the MHSAA Class 3A State Championship, and extend our best wishes to the team, coaches, parents and sponsors for future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to Coach Higginbottom and Belmont Principal Van Roberts for the team, forwarded to the Tishomingo County Board of Education, and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

ADOPTED BY THE SENATE

March 18, 2015

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 20, 201

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES